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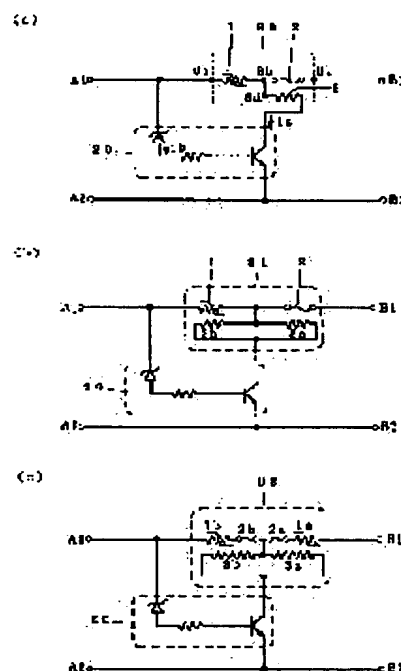
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(54) PROTECTIVE CIRCUIT AND PROTECTIVE ELEMENT

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To operate the element of a protective circuit as a protective element at the time of both an overcurrent and overvoltage and to enable the reuse of the element as much as possible even after operation at the time of the overcurrent or overvoltage.

CONSTITUTION: A protective circuit is composed of a PTC element 1 and a low melting point metallic body 2 connected in series, a voltage detecting means 20 operated when terminal voltage reaches fixed voltage or higher and a heating element 3, energized by the operation of the voltage detecting means and which generates heat, and the heating element 3 is arranged close to the low melting-point metallic body 2. Such a protective circuit can be formed preferably by using a protective element, in which the PTC element and the low melting-point metallic body are disposed in series on a substrate and the heating element is fitted close to the PTC element or the low melting-point metallic body.



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